

**In The United States Patent and Trademark Office**

Appellant	: Hickok, <i>et al.</i>	Art Unit	: 1641
Serial No.	: 10/774,144	Examiner	: Grun, James Leslie
Filed	: February 6, 2004		
Title	: Screening and Treatment Methods for Prevention of Preterm Delivery		

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT IN CONNECTION WITH A REQUEST FOR  
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)**

**MAIL STOP RCE**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

March 21, 2008

Dear Sir:

This preliminary amendment, which is responsive to the Final Office action mailed December 21, 2007, is filed in conjunction with a Request for Continued Examination for the above-referenced patent application. Please enter the following Preliminary Amendment into the file of the above-referenced application:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the Listing of Claims, which begins on page of 2 this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 6 of this paper.